



Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training

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DOCJT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS IACET ACCREDITATION

Becomes the first law enforcement training academy in the nation to be dually accredited

RICHMOND, Ky. — Kentucky's Department of Criminal Justice Training has set a precedent, becoming the only law enforcement training academy in the nation to be accredited by two, third-party, independent accrediting agencies, according to Commissioner John W. Bizzack. On Oct. 31, DOCJT was awarded the prestigious Authorized Provider accreditation from the International Association of Continuing Education and Training, meeting a national standard for best practices in adult continuing education and commitment to excellence in educational rigor and integrity. The accreditation period extends five years and includes all programs offered or created during that time.

"We are pleased to begin our relationship with DOCJT as an Authorized Provider," said Kristopher J. Newbauer, President of IACET and Director of Learning and Organization Development at Rotary International in Evanston, Ill. "DOCJT joins nearly 650 organizations around the globe that have had their programs vetted by third-party experts in continuing education to ensure the highest possible standards are met."

Coupled with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies accreditation DOCJT has held for more than 15 years, the department's law enforcement training and continuing education policies and processes are proven to be second to none, DOCJT Commissioner John Bizzack said. DOCJT was the first in the nation to be accredited under CALEA's public safety training program designation. In 2006, the academy also became the first law enforcement training academy in the nation to be named as a CALEA flagship agency.

"The distinction of holding these two third-party accreditations speaks volumes to the dedication, professionalism and ingenuity of our instructors and staff," Bizzack said. "Those same qualities are instilled in every student who emerges from our academy, providing the commonwealth with the most professionally trained officers and dispatchers in the nation."

DOCJT annually trains more than 10,000 law enforcement and dispatch personnel, consisting of virtually every law enforcement officer and 911 dispatcher in the commonwealth. In 2012, DOCJT provided 616,680 hours of training.

The IACET accreditation process focused on 10 nationally recognized standard categories, including:

- ☐ Continuing education and training organization,
- ☐ Responsibility and control,
- ☐ Learning environments and support systems,
- ☐ Planning for learning events
- ☐ Learning outcomes,
- ☐ Planning and instructional personnel,
- ☐ Content and instructional methods,
- ☐ Assessment of learning outcomes,
- ☐ System for awarding continuing education credits,
- ☐ Program evaluation.

“Our entire curriculum base was evaluated by IACET,” said DOCJT Training Director Chuck Melville. “We were not going to be hit or miss; it was either all or nothing.”

The IACET multi-faceted evaluation assessed both the basic and advanced individual training in the areas of law enforcement and public safety dispatch, which also includes the leadership training provided through the Kentucky Leadership Institute.

“What’s impressive to me about this organization is it is pairing an already accredited status with CALEA which has to do with law enforcement with a third-party independent accreditation, which has to do with continuing education and training. Those two together, I think, make a fabulous statement,” said IACET Commissioner and On-site Evaluator Susan McFadden during DOCJT’s on-site evaluation.

The Department of Criminal Justice Training is a state agency located on Eastern Kentucky University’s campus. It provides basic training for city and county police officers, sheriffs’ deputies, university police, airport police and others. The agency also provides in-service and leadership training for Kentucky law enforcement officers and public safety dispatch training.

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